C O N C O R D I A U N I V E R S I T Y

SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

M I N U T E S

(of SRC meeting held on Thursday, October 17, 1991
at 10:00 A.M., in Room BC-110, SGW campus)

ATTENDANCE -

Members present: V. Baba, P. Bird, U. De Brentani, E. Doedel, D. Ginter, J.N. Lightstone (Chair), D. Markiewicz, R.J. Parker, S. Sankar, T.S. Sankar, P. Shizgal, A. Williams, Evelyne Loo (Secretary)

Absent: M. Halque, A. Zaidi

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED AND DISTRIBUTED TO SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

In Advance:

SRC-10-17-91-D151 Draft Guidelines for the Implementation of the Policy Document entitled "THE ENHANCEMENT OF RESEARCH AT CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY" dated October 17, 1991.

At Meeting:

SRC-10-17-91-D149 APPRAISAL OF ACADEMIC UNITS OF CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, document as **AMENDED** and **APPROVED** by Senate on May 24, 1991 and subsequently **REVISED** on August 27, 1991.

SRC-10-17-91-D150 Reactions to the draft of the Medical Research Council's Position Paper on Scientific Integrity based upon discussions by the SRC dated September 30, 1991.

Dr. Jack N. Lightstone occupied the Chair.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. Dr. T.S. Sankar will be replacing the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science.

1.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved by the Committee.

2.0 MINUTES

Minutes were approved subject to correction of Professor Shizgal's comments in Section 5.0 which should read:

- "the preamble should be modified so as to indicate the self-correcting nature of research. Attempts to replicate important findings ensure that fraud will be detected rapidly in competitive areas of research".

- "this requires evaluation by recognized experts who are ***at arm's length*** from the work in question. Thus, in most cases, peer review must involve experts from other institutions."

3.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no particular business arising.

4.0 REPORT OF CHAIR

The Chair reported that he has sent to Senate the MRC position paper on Scientific Integrity as well as the Committee's comments. Further discussions will no doubt take place on the relationship between scientific integrity and academic freedom.

The Royal Society of Canada is holding a three-day conference from November 3 to 6 on the question of Academic Freedom, unfortunately he will not be able to attend but Dr. Mackay will be attending.

The Chair remarked a few weeks ago that there was an article in the Gazette regarding university research in the Social Sciences and Humanities. The Chair sent a letter to the Gazette, responding to the article, to date it has not been published.

Discussions followed on some of the negative publicity or lack of publicity accorded to Concordia University etc. Various suggestions were proposed. The Chair will follow up with Dr. Cohen and the Rector.

5. REPORT OF DIRECTOR, RESEARCH SERVICES

A.J. Williams made the following announcement:

- ADRIQ-ADARUQ is holding a joint colloquium on November 7 and 8. Anyone interested in attending, should call ORS for registration forms.

- A consensus has now been reached among the Quebec University administrators and the Ministère de l'enseignement supérieure et de la science (MESS) to permit Quebec Universities to report and receive credit for interuniversity grants awarded to the Principal Investigator as well as to the co-investigators where the latter are from other institutions other than that of the Principal Investigator. These activities must be reported prior to November 15 for the 1990-1991 year and on a regular basis thereafter. A letter has been sent to all Concordia researchers.

- Research Services has received an urgent note from NSERC that applications with small print size will be rejected from the forthcoming competition. Researchers have been notified that it is their responsibility to ensure correct print size.

6. IMPLEMENTATION OF "THE ENHANCEMENT OF RESEARCH AT CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY" (US-91-2-D12) - GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICY DOCUMENT

The Committee had an open discussion of initial Guidelines for the implementation of the Policy document entitled "The Enhancement of Research at Concordia University." Discussion centred on the interrelationship among periodic appraisal, academic planning and prioritizing, and the budget process as the context for effective implementation of the Senate-approved policy document on the enhancement of research. An ad hoc sub-committee, comprising D. Ginter, V.V. Baba and T.S. Sankar, and chaired by J. Lightstone, will further pursue the issue to facilitate discussions at the next meeting.

7. Varia

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, November 14, 1991 at 10:00 a.m. in BC-110.

9. Adjournment

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.